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SOURCE Nacht-Express.LEIPZIG PLANT DEVELOPS STRATOSPHERE BALLOON

A stratosphere balloon for meteorological observation has been developed by the people-owned Kautas Plant in Leipzig.

In tests the balloon reached a height of 28,000 meters. It is equipped with a transmitter set which relays the automatically recorded readings to the ground station, where they are registered with the greatest precision. The balloon has a casing 4 millimeter thick and a diameter of 1.25 meters, which can be extended to 6 meters. At an altitude of 28,000 meters the diameter was 4.5-5 meters. The 18,000-meter altitude capacity aimed at by various scientific institutes has been exceeded considerably, and it is hoped that an altitude of 38,000-40,000 meters will be attained.

Experiments are now being conducted to make the balloon insensitive to the ultraviolet rays which appear in the ozone stratum 24 kilometers above the earth's surface.

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